

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 198408 TOSEC 200288

61

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CCO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /066 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:JGDAY/BR

APPROVED BY EUR:LBLAINGEN

S/S - MR. SEBASTIAN

----- 077087

O 102135Z AUG 76 ZFF5

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

INFO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 198408 TOSEC 200288

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, UNSC, GR, TU

SUBJECT:AEGEAN DISPUTE

1. UK EMBASSY (CORNISH) CALLED ON LAINGEN AUG 10 TO GIVE US FOLLOWING FOREIGN OFFICE CABLE CONTAINING PRELIMINARY HMG VIEWS ON GREEK MOVE IN UNSC:
2. BEGIN TEXT.

-- 1. MR. KARAMANLIS INFORMED MR. VAN DER STOEL ON 9 AUGUST INTER ALIA THAT GREECE HOPED THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL WOULD ADOPT A RESOLUTION WITH THE FOLLOWING CONTENT:

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 198408 TOSEC 200288

-- (A) THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SISMIC ABOVE THE DISPUTED

AREAS OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF SHOULD CEASE;

-- (B) THE PARTIES SHOULD BE ADVISED TO SUBMIT THE QUESTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE OR TO RESUME DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS.

MR. KARAMANLIS STRESSED THE EXTREMELY DANGEROUS SITUATION WHICH WOULD ARISE IF SUCH A RESOLUTION WAS NOT PASSED OR IF TURKEY IGNORED IT.

-- 2. HMG CONSIDER IT IMPORTANT TO AVOID ENTERING INTO THE SUBSTANCE OF THE DISPUTE AND NOT TO TAKE SIDES. THE GREEKS APPEAR TO BE ASKING FOR TOO MUCH IN POINT (A). IT IS UNREALISTIC FOR THE GREEKS TO EXPECT HMG OR GOVERNMENTS SHARING OUR VIEWS TO PROMOTE THE CONTINENTAL SHELF CLAIMED BY GREECE. UP TO 24 JULY IT WAS A QUESTION OF FINDING A WAY BY WHICH THE SISMİK'S OPERATIONS COULD BE MADE TOLERABLE TO GREECE WHILE REMAINING SATISFACTORY TO TURKEY. THE AIM SHOULD BE TO GET BACK TO THAT SITUATION, ALTHOUGH GREECE'S INTENTIONS ARE MAKING IT INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TO SEE A WAY BACK.

-- 3. ON POINT (B) ABOVE, IT SEEMS IMPORTANT TO DISTINGUISH MORE CLOSELY BETWEEN THE PROBLEMS FOR DISCUSSION. THE FIRST AND MOST URGENT TASK WHICH SHOULD BE ENJOINED ON THE PARTIES SHOULD BE AS OUR COREU TELEGRAM CONTAINED IN MY TELEGRAM NO 183 TO UKDEL NATO SUGGESTED, TO RESUME THEIR DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE OPERATION OF THE SISMİK AND REACH AGREEMENT ON TERMS WHEREBY IT CAN CONTINUE TO OPERATE WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE POSITION OF EITHER SIDE. THE SECOND AND LONGER-TERM TASK WOULD BE FOR THEM TO PURSUE A RESOLUTION OF THEIR FUNDAMENTAL DISPUTE ABOUT THE DEFINITION OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF. NO RESOLUTION WHICH SIMPLY URGES THE PARTIES TO GO TO THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE IS LIKELY TO BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE TURKS AND NO SUCH RESOLUTION IS THEREFORE LIKELY TO BE EFFECTIVE. IN ANY CASE, BILATERAL DISCUSSION WOULD BE NECESSARY BEFORE ANY RECOURSE TO THE COURT BY THEM BOTH. POINT (B) ABOVE MIGHT HOWEVER BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE TURKS, GIVEN THAT THEY HAVE NOT REPUDIATED THEIR 1975 ACCEPTANCE OF THE PRINCIPLES OF REFERRING THE MATTER TO THE COURT, AS LONG AS IT CONTINUES TO BE PHRASED IN THE EITHER/OR FORM GIVEN IT BY MR. KARAMANLIS AND AS LONG AS THE REFERENCE TO DIRECT DISCUSSIONS PRECEDES THAT TO THE ICJ. WE ARE NOT HOWEVER FULLY INFORMED ABOUT THE GREEK INTENTIONS TO APPEAL UNILATERALLY TO THE ICJ IN PARALLEL WITH AN APPEAL TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL. IF THEY DO THIS, IT MAY MEAN THAT ANY REFERENCE TO THE ICJ IN ANY SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 198408 TOSEC 200288

PLE OF REFERRING THE MATTER TO THE COURT, AS LONG AS IT CONTINUES TO BE PHRASED IN THE EITHER/OR FORM GIVEN IT BY MR. KARAMANLIS AND AS LONG AS THE REFERENCE TO DIRECT DISCUSSIONS PRECEDES THAT TO THE ICJ. WE ARE NOT HOWEVER FULLY INFORMED ABOUT THE GREEK INTENTIONS TO APPEAL UNILATERALLY TO THE ICJ IN PARALLEL WITH AN APPEAL TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL. IF THEY DO THIS, IT MAY MEAN THAT ANY REFERENCE TO THE ICJ IN ANY SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION

OR COMMUNICATION TO THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT WOULD BECOME UNACCEPTABLE TO THE LATTER.

-- 4. IF THE ANALYSIS ABOVE IS GENERALLY SHARED BY WESTERN GOVERNMENTS, IT MAY BE AS IMPORTANT TO MAKE THEIR VIEWS CLEAR IN ATHENS IN ORDER TO DEMONSTRATE TO THE GREEKS THE LIMITS OF WHAT THEY CAN EXPECT FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AS TO MAKE REPRESENTATIONS IN ANKARA. AFTER ALL, THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SISMIK MAY BE CHALLENGING BUT THEY

ARE PEACEFUL. THE THREAT TO THE PEACE COMES FROM THE TEMPTATIONS TO VIOLENCE WHICH THE GREEK GOVERNMENT IS FACING. END TEXT.

5. LAINGEN TOLD CORNISH THAT VIEWS OF HMG DESCRIBED ABOVE WERE VERY CLOSE TO OUR OWN. WE WOULD WANT TO KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH AS WE GET CLEARER PICTURE AS TO WHAT GREEKS AND TURKS WOULD BE SEEKING IN UNSC. ROBINSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISPUTES, CONTINENTAL SHELF, TERRITORIAL WATERS, RESOLUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE198408
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JGDAY/BR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760308-0167
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760867/aaaacgqj.tel
Line Count: 133
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 APR 2004 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <08 APR 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AEGEAN DISPUTE
TAGS: PFOR, GR, TU, UNSC
To: ATHENS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006